



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Jennifer Shilling

95TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Testimony in support of AB 142 – Landscape Architect Practice Act
Assembly Committee on Labor
April 8, 2009

Good morning Chairwoman Sinicki and members of the Assembly Labor Committee. Thank you for holding a public hearing on this bill.

Currently in Wisconsin, a person cannot use the title of “landscape architect” unless he or she is a certified landscape architect. Landscape architects are trained to work on the analysis, planning, design, and management of land and water resource projects such as roadway design, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, wetland construction and mitigation, park and trail systems, erosion control, and stormwater management.

In an effort to promote public safety and enhance professional competition, this bill would create a landscape architecture practice act to ensure that only licensed landscape architects perform highly technical, complicated landscape projects.

This practice act would promote environmental protection and public safety by requiring that only qualified individuals are engaging in the water and land management projects associated with the profession of landscape architecture. These projects – such as stormwater drainage, outdoor lighting systems, and the construction of retention walls – have the potential to pose significant public safety threats if not designed and completed properly.

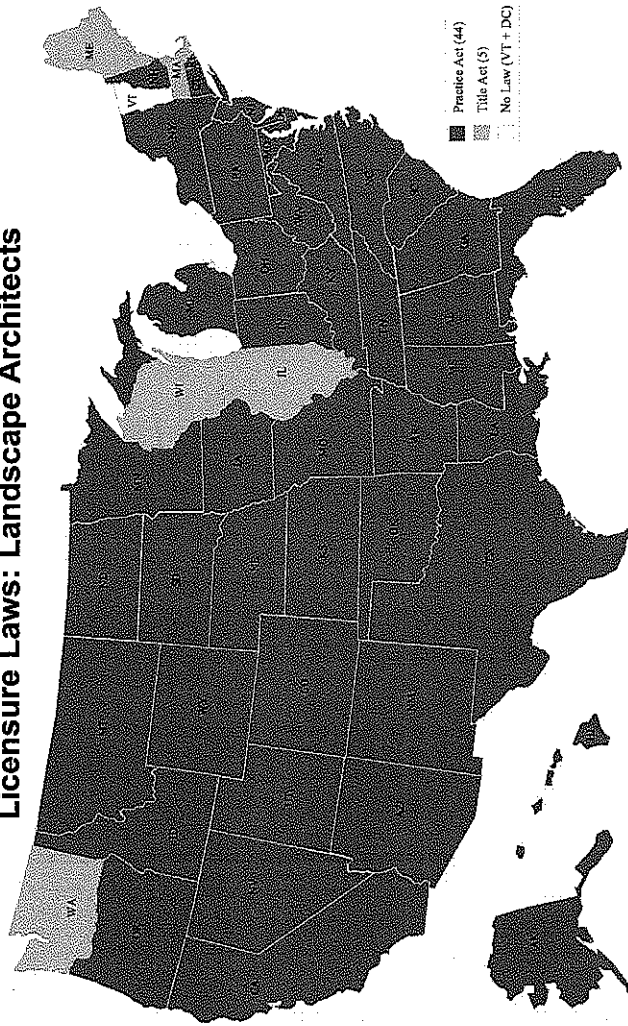
Creating a landscape architect practice act would also put Wisconsin on a level playing field with the forty-three other states that currently have this requirement. Without this legislation, Wisconsin’s landscape architects are at a competitive disadvantage to their colleagues in the states that have a practice act because many contracts require that landscape architects be licensed.

This bill would provide exemptions for individuals who are licensed in certain professional services – such as architects, engineers, and land surveyors – as well as for individual property owners to perform work, or to hire any person to perform work, on their property.

Thank you and I appreciate this committee’s consideration of this bill.



Licensure Laws: Landscape Architects





ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY
PUBLIC HEARING ON AB 142, April 8, 2009

Pamela Linn
President WI ASLA
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**WISCONSIN
CHAPTER**

**AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS**

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Good Morning, my name is Pamela Linn and I am the President of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WI ASLA) and a Senior Landscape Architect for Waukesha County Parks and Land Use. I want to thank the Chair, Representative Sinicki, Members of the Committee for the opportunity to testify in support of the AB 142, legislation to upgrade Wisconsin's current landscape architecture title act to a practice act, and our sponsors Senator Risser, Representative Shilling and Representative Lothian.

Background

Currently forty four (44) other states have similar laws that provide a practice act for Landscape Architects. In the early 1990's Wisconsin passed a title act, under current law, no person may use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a certificate of registration as a landscape architect issued by the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Land Surveyors (the board). This legislation will change the current certificate for registered Landscape Architects to a license.

This is the third legislative session that a bill has been introduced to change the current certificate to a license. We have work hard to acquire support from allied professionals and feel this bill has gained broad support.

Why Is AB 142 Necessary?

WI ASLA believes a practice act is a more beneficial form of regulation for both the public and the landscape architecture profession, for a variety of reasons. Under current law, any individual regardless of qualification can practice these duties as long as they do not use the title landscape architect. AB 142 is necessary to ensure that only individuals who have demonstrated their qualifications to the state of Wisconsin are able to perform tasks that relate directly to the public good. In addition, a practice act is necessary for Wisconsin's landscape architects to compete with those from out-of-state. Without licensure, our profession is at a competitive disadvantage when competing with licensed landscape architects from other states.

Professional Competition

Without a practice act, landscape architects may be unfairly disadvantaged in the marketplace. For instance, a landscape architecture firm may be discouraged from submitting a particular project proposal because the submitter is required or encouraged to hold a valid license. Many large projects, typically those headquartered in other states; assemble design teams that require licensed professionals. Federal project requires a licensed professional to provide design services.

Landscape Architects in Wisconsin, while certified, do not hold a valid license. The lack of licensure in Wisconsin provides unfair competition from professionals outside the state who hold valid licenses, even though the requirements for such a license are the same as the certificate in Wisconsin. Without valid licensure, a landscape architect or firm seeking work outside their home state may find their efforts stymied, as proof of licensure is usually required before reciprocity is granted.

No Fiscal Impact

The infrastructure is in place in the Joint Board of Technical Registration with no additional cost in oversight or personnel needed. This structure was established by the current Title act. There is no additional cost to the government to provide the license for Landscape Architects above that, which currently exists for the certificate.

There is no additional cost to the Landscape Architect. The process and fee for obtaining a license would be identical to that of the certification process. In addition, because there is no additional expense to the licensee cost will not be passed down to the end consumer.

Brain Drain

Students graduating from The University of Wisconsin, Madison, are among the most highly sought out graduates on the job market. Currently we are losing many of our best and brightest students to employment outside of Wisconsin. One of main reasons for moving away has been the lack of licensure in our state. The change from certificate to license will send a clear message to the students that, in Wisconsin, our profession is as highly regarded as a profession and have parity Architects, Engineers, and Surveyors.

Government Choice

We have worked with the drafting attorney to make sure AB 142 does not contain language requiring State, City, or Local governing agencies to utilize the professional services of Landscape Architects. Requiring professional stamping of documents is solely the responsibility of said governing body. Currently in Wisconsin, cities such as Milwaukee and Madison require a Landscape Architects stamp be placed on planting plan drawings in bid sets documents submitted to the City.

I work for Waukesha County Park Department, our park locations are in multiple local governmental jurisdictions. When I submit plans to the various cities, town and villages, some require that plans are stamped and other do not. This bill maintains government choice, allowing State and local government to continue to choose if they will require a stamp.

Professional Integrity

Landscape architects undergo educational training and requirements equal to that of other licensed design professions, and should therefore be eligible for a similar level of licensure. Landscape architecture must be regulated such that untrained individuals are prevented from engaging in professional practice.

The intensive education requirements that a landscape architect must take, in addition to passage of the rigorous, three day Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE), are further proof that landscape architecture is a highly technical profession that should be regulated by a practice act.

Protection of Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

There is a direct relationship between the practice of landscape architecture and public health, safety, and welfare. Landscape architects are trained to work on community master plans, specific site planning, roadway design, pedestrian walkways, wetland construction and mitigation, park and trail systems, erosion control, historic preservation, stormwater management, mine reclamation, to name just a few aspects of the profession.

Let me share a few specific examples where the inappropriate practice of landscape architecture impacts the public health and safety:

- Inadequate design of outdoor lighting systems has presented undue fire and shock hazards, as well as a greater risk of crime and vandalism.
- Specification of unsafe playground equipment or improper location of playground facilities has resulted in injury.
- Inadequate design of roads, pedestrian walkways, and parking areas has increased the occurrence of accidents.
- Inappropriate specification and supervision of grading has resulted in erosion.
- Inadequate calculation and provision for stormwater drainage has resulted in flooding and costly damage to buildings, walkways, highways, and public facilities.

As these examples demonstrate, a practice act is critical in protecting the public from unqualified or incompetent individuals that engage in professional practice.

Conclusion

A practice act such as AB 142 outlines a core group of services that licensed landscape architects are qualified to provide by virtue of their education, experience, and examination. The nature of the duties regulated under AB 142 will not adversely affect the landscape design, landscape construction or related industries. Passage of AB 142 will ensure that work directly impacting the public is performed only by individuals who have demonstrated their qualifications to the state of Wisconsin.

Thank you for your time. I hope we have your support and quick action of the committee.

Sincerely,



Pamela Linn
President
Wisconsin Chapter ASLA

Cc:

Honorable Representative Christine Sinicki, Chair
Honorable Representative Akkeren, Vice-Chair,
Honorable Representative Honadel
Honorable Representative Jorgensen
Honorable Representative Knodl
Honorable Representative Nass
Honorable Representative Parisi
Honorable Representative Toles

Assembly Committee on Labor
Public Hearing on AB 142, 8 April 2009

Daniel Schmitt,
1320 Mound Street
Madison, WI 53715

I support AB 142, the Practice Act for Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin.

It is as a graduating senior and lifelong Wisconsin resident that I urge your support of this bill.

Many speak of the "brain drain" of Wisconsin college graduates; this is no more apparent than in field of Landscape Architecture. Throughout my years in the program I have seen many past graduates leave the state not due to a poor economy or aversion of Wisconsin, but rather the professional atmosphere surrounding landscape architecture.

The study of landscape architecture is based on ensuring the health, safety and welfare of the public. These goals are idealized in the tongue of the people of Wisconsin, but I feel, not carried out in its legislation.

Here professions like architecture and engineers hold licenses, as compared to the title act of landscape architecture. The demands of the profession and needs of the communities in which Landscape Architects work warrant provision to ensure all parties are fair and accountable. Currently, forty three (43) other states stand behind this need for a practice act.

The process toward licensure in Wisconsin (and our current title act) involves a three step process:

- I. A degree in landscape architecture from an accredited university. These programs are accredited by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. It is through the accreditation process that a student's performance and the ability of the program to meet standards of competency and knowledge is assessed. UW-Madison is the only such program of forty four (44) nationwide that exists in the state of Wisconsin.
- II. Apprenticeship with a licensed landscape architect ensures developing professionals gain the experience and local knowledge necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- III. Completion of the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE) is required. This test is maintained by Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB).

As students we are held accountable to ourselves and our instructors through the projects we are assigned with the expectation that when we graduate we will have an even greater accountability to the clients we serve, both public and private.

There are three (3) essential reasons licensure matters to the emerging professional:

- I. Not being able to hold a valid license leaves Landscape Architects unable to compete for projects requiring a registered landscape architect to complete them. For example, all federal projects across our state require such a qualification. Right now, those roles are filled by landscape architects licensed or working in another state.
- II. This bill promotes healthy competition for projects where qualifications of other licensed professions overlap.
- III. Continuing education Credits/Units (CEUs) were recently added as a regulatory requirement to other professions including Landscape Architects. These other professions (engineers, architects etc.) provide the security and safety of licensure. Why is landscape architecture also required to obtain these credits while denied the responsibility of full licensure?

In summary, I thank you for your thought and consideration of this matter. You now have an opportunity to help keep Wisconsin graduates in Wisconsin. While the economy is on the minds of everyone, there is no better time to take steps to ensure their health, safety and welfare. As the economy rebuilds Landscape Architects in Wisconsin and abroad will be prepared to ensure these principals are followed and enhanced through rigorous training and constant review required with a practice act.

Regards,



Daniel R. Schmitt
Undergraduate ALA Landscape Architecture
Bachelors of Science Candidate
University of Wisconsin – Madison

To: Assembly Committee on Labor and Industry

From: Rebecca Flood
Landscape Architect
WI-ASLA President-Elect

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Rebecca Flood
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Date: 8 April 2009

Re: PUBLIC HEARING ON AB 142

I am writing in support of AB 142, the Practice Act for Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin and I urge you to support this effort and keep young, talented professionals working in this great State of Wisconsin.

I am a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in landscape architecture. UW-Madison is the only university, public or private, in the State of Wisconsin that offers an accredited degree program in this field. I completed a five-year undergraduate study, taking a broad array of general course requirements from Calculus to Chemistry, Botany to Anthropology, and also completed the course requirements for my Landscape Architecture major. I graduated in May of 2004 with a cumulative GPA of 3.8.

While my classmates dispersed to different parts of the country, I accepted a position at a local landscape architectural firm here in Madison, Wisconsin; Ken Saiki Design is a fabulous place to work and a great fit for me. For the first three years I apprenticed under a group of talented landscape architects who were registered in Wisconsin and licensed in other states (including Minnesota, North Carolina, and Iowa). After three years I began to prepare for my professional licensure examinations. Meanwhile, in other states around the country, my classmates and peers were undergoing the same apprenticeship periods and beginning to prepare for the same examinations.

As a precursor to the exams, I was required to pull together a candidate eligibility package which consisted of an official college transcript, a detailed work history, and five letters of reference from licensed or registered landscape architects with whom I had direct professional contact. The letters of reference spoke to the breadth of my knowledge and my readiness to prepare for the rigorous examinations. All of this material was submitted to the Department of Regulation and Licensing as well as to CLARB, a national organization for landscape architectural registration for thorough review before I was accepted as a candidate.

The examinations are administered at a national level; candidates in all ~~48~~⁵² states take the same examination sections. There are five sections to the examination covering a broad range of material in detail; the exam tested my working knowledge of health, safety, and

welfare issues related to landscape architecture. I studied for an entire year to prepare solely for the examinations and I passed each of the five sections on the first try.

I am now a REGISTERED landscape architect since the State of Wisconsin does not recognize Landscape Architecture as a licensed profession. Meanwhile, my classmates and peers (in the 44 other states that recognize landscape architecture as a licensed profession) who graduated from the same university, worked for the same apprenticeship period, prepared and passed the exact same examination are now LICENSED landscape architects and compete with each other on national-level projects which require a LICENSED professional.

In addition, Wisconsin has no requirement or framework for mandatory continuing education to keep current on emerging issues, while neighboring states with Practice Acts like Minnesota and Iowa do. And while continuing education is a critically important issue at a broad level, were I to specifically seek a license in another state, I would have to provide a complete continuing education history to that state with additional documentation. Wisconsin landscape architects are a group of highly dedicated and talented professionals; we should be held to the same continuing education standards as our peers in 44 other Practice Act states.

It is critically important that Wisconsin support landscape architect, particularly young landscape architects who chose to stay and practice here in Wisconsin. I strongly urge you to support AB142 the Practice Act for Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin.

Respectfully,



Rebecca Flood
Landscape Architect
WI-ASLA President-Elect

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY
PUBLIC HEARING ON AB 142, 8 April 2009

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I support AB 142, the Practice Act for Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin. I urge you to support this effort by a profession dedicated to preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare. Our current Title Act is an important first step to professional recognition, which needs to be followed by the Practice Act in Wisconsin.

This legislation is not original to Wisconsin. Currently forty four (44) other states have similar laws which provide for a practice act for Landscape Architects. Two more states are poised to pass their practice acts in the next month. This legislation will change the current certificate for registered Landscape Architects to a license. In the other forty four states with such licensure there exists similar language to our proposed law, with like exemptions to practice which allow other occupations and professions to act within the limits of their abilities and liabilities. I have personally called or emailed most of the Landscape Contractors Associations in forty one states, with the specific question of how the bill in their state has negatively affected their industry. Not one group has responded with a negative reply. Our national organization, the American Society of Landscape Architects has collected data which reveals that the landscaping industry in each of the states with Practice Acts for Landscape Architects, dating from 1997 to 2002, has demonstrated an increase in revenue from \$14.6 billion to over \$28 billion in that space of time. Landscape designers have increased their revenues three fold over the same time in those same states (American Society of Landscape Architects. Landscape Architecture Laws Regulatory Board Type. 15 June 2007).

The bill before you has been aligned with the existing bills in the states with Practice Acts for Landscape Architects. The exemptions to practice have gained support from allied professionals, and were granted unanimous approval by the Joint Board of Technical Registration in Wisconsin this past year. This Joint Board has members from the Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Designers, and Landscape Architects professions. The unanimous support of this group for our efforts says that we should be accorded equal status as a profession with a practice act.

The practice of landscape architecture in Wisconsin is hindered by the lack of a license for professional practitioners. I maintain my license in another state (California license # 3320), along with my certificate in Wisconsin (Wisconsin # 59) because it allows my firm to compete for projects which require a licensed professional to participate on the design team. Many large projects, typically those headquartered in other states, assemble design teams that require licensed professionals. Any Federal project requires a licensed professional to provide design services. My colleagues in Wisconsin, while certified, do not hold a valid license. The lack of licensure in Wisconsin provides unfair competition from professionals outside the state who hold valid licenses, even though the requirements for such a license are the same as the certificate in Wisconsin.

There is no additional cost to the government to provide the license for Landscape Architects above that which currently exists for the certificate. The infrastructure is in place in the Joint Board of Technical Registration with no cost in additional oversight or personnel needed. This structure was provided by the current Title protection act.

The profession of Landscape Architecture is based on the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public. I have had the pleasure of teaching in the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for the past fourteen (14) years, along with maintaining my professional practice in Williams Bay, Wisconsin. The requirements for licensure, and our current title act, begin with the need to graduate from an accredited program in Landscape Architecture. This accreditation is beyond standard University accreditation. The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) hosts the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), which is comprised of teams who visit programs in Landscape Architecture to review their teaching, facilities, faculty, and students, and measure them against national standards for the practice. All the review is based on the same platform which is the mission statement of the CLARB and LAAB: the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare. There are currently forty four (44) undergraduate and thirty five (35) graduate programs accredited in the United States, and six total in Canada. Our program in Madison is the only accredited Landscape Architecture program in Wisconsin. The various UW campuses provide classes in Landscape Design, typically within the Departments of Horticulture. These programs produce excellent landscape designers, with broad understanding of plants and typically residential design. These other programs in Landscape Design provided within the University of Wisconsin system, and their graduates, are unaffected by this AB 142. The difference between the accredited program and the design programs is in scope and scale, typically. Landscape Design has a more specific focus on plants and human interactions than does the broader, health, safety, and welfare focus of the Madison program. The coexistence of Landscape Architectural practices and Landscape Designers, horticulturalists, garden centers, and landscapers is proven in the other forty four states with legislation similar to that which we are proposing in AB 142. My original license is in a state

which has had a practice act since 1954. All the allied professions have a record of success in the climate provided by a practice act for Landscape Architects.

The second requirement for licensure (currently certificate) in Wisconsin is the need to apprentice with a Licensed (or, in Wisconsin, certified) Landscape Architect for two years. This time period for apprenticeship varies per state, and sometimes with the degree achieved (Masters or Bachelors). The intent of the internship requirement for the graduate is that they become acquainted with the parameters of professional practice and, again, the application of his or her skills toward the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

The third requirement for licensure (certification in Wisconsin) is the successful completion of the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE). This test has been reformatted from three eight hour days to five sections offered at least twice per year in two day clusters. The rigor of this test is maintained by the author, CLARB, who also hosts the Accreditation Teams. Once again, the basis for the examination is the public health, safety, and welfare. Once this final piece is passed the individual who has completed all the above requirements can apply to the state for a license (certificate currently in Wisconsin) to practice the art and science of Landscape Architecture. In Wisconsin with our current title-only act this means that an individual may only call themselves a Landscape Architect once they have satisfied the above requirements. Anyone can perform the services associated with the title, regardless of education or oversight.

The change in our current title legislation to practice legislation does not prohibit healthy competition or carve a niche only for Landscape Architects. It does, however, provide an important distinction which has been shown in the other licensed states to allow an informed choice to the consumer. The ability of the consumer to make an informed choice has not been a profit reducer for landscapers in any of the other states with practice acts. Moreover, this proposed legislation allows Wisconsin Landscape Architects to participate on a level field with the other licensed professions, as well as those licensed as Landscape Architects in other states.

In my testimony I will introduce the general bill history, as well as a brief outline of the topics covered by my professional colleagues in greater detail. You will notice that the professional Landscape Architects who present their areas of expertise represent a broad spectrum of practice areas. While our profession is diverse in specific area of application, it is unified in its focus: the protection of public health, safety, and welfare. We are liable and do willingly accept the responsibility for our professional actions that we have been educated, mentored, and tested to produce, and accept the oversight provided by the state and the industry. Our movement to a license from a certificate elevates all the related industries in the eyes of an informed consumer.

Most Landscape Architectural firms in Wisconsin are small businesses. There are currently ninety (90) firms, two thirds of which have between one and four employees. Nearly all the ninety firms have less than forty- nine employees.

In Wisconsin we currently have 565 certificates to practice our profession, of which 314 are Wisconsin residents. There are over 18,000 Landscape Architects in the United States currently. Our profession has been targeted by the U.S. Labor Bureau as growing by sixteen percent over the next eight years. This puts incredible pressure on the industry to provide educated, professionally responsible practitioners of the profession of Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin.

As an educator at the University I have tracked my past students as they move through their professional careers. Our students are among the most highly sought on the job market every year since I have been tracking them. The overwhelming trend has been to seek and find employment outside the state of Wisconsin. This trend has been evident in the past fourteen years that I have been teaching and following our students. We are sending most of our best and brightest to other states to gain licensure to practice and improve the human condition. Informal interviews and conversations with past graduates indicate that one strong reason for moving away has been the lack of licensure in our state. The difference in professional regard, both among professions and with the public has been typical in our past students comments about the reasons to leave their home state to practice the profession. The change from certificate to license will send a clear message to the students that, in Wisconsin, our profession is as highly regarded as a profession as are Architects, Engineers, and Surveyors.

Our bill is currently endorsed by organizations recognized for their input in the well being of the citizens of our state. These supporters include the State Joint Board of Technical Registration, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association, the Wisconsin Green Building Alliance, the Wisconsin Green Industry Federation, and the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Professional practitioners in other licensed professions have indicated their support and willingness to provide like testimony.

In conclusion, I thank you for the opportunity to present my perspectives on the need for this legislation. AB 142 places the practice of Landscape Architecture on a level field with the profession in forty four other states, as well as with the other licensed professions in Wisconsin. This bill has been carefully crafted and amended to its current form so as to provide no taking from the industry as it now exists. Those who currently are in the businesses of landscaping and landscape design will likely see an increase in profit as evidenced in the other forty four states with practice acts in place. The profession of Landscape Architecture is currently doing the work of a licensed profession without the needed regard accorded it by a valid license. It is time to approve the licensure of Landscape Architects in Wisconsin. Please send this bill to the full Assembly for action.

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UW-Madison
Department of Landscape Architecture

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142 I am on the faculty in the UW-Madison Department of Landscape Architecture. I am also a licensed landscape architect. And I support AB 667, the Practice Act for Landscape Architecture in Wisconsin. It is refreshing to support a bi-partisan effort that has the unanimous support of all the professions represented by the Joint Board of Technical Registration in Wisconsin.

I speak today, not on behalf of the Department of Landscape Architecture, but as a concerned citizen whose job it is to prepare students for careers in landscape architecture. For aspiring Landscape Architects, these steps include graduation from an accredited University program in Landscape Architecture, a period of professional apprenticeship, qualification to sit for the national licensing exam, passing the exam and applying for licensure. Our academic program prepares students for all sections of the exam, which in turn assures the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Here are a few highlights from the Department of Landscape Architecture's long distinguished history serving the people of Wisconsin.

- First degree in Landscape Architecture in 1926
- Department of Landscape Architecture created in 1964
- Nationally accredited professional degree initiated in 1966

- A national leader since members of the department founded the discipline's premier research journal in 1981

The department is in danger of becoming a net exporter of graduates. Here are some highlights from our recent survey of graduates from the last six years (source: UW Department of Landscape Architecture, Accreditation Self-Evaluation Report, November 2007):

- Only 53% remain in Wisconsin
- 47% practice in other states
- 68% are in private/public practice as landscape architects
- 13% are employed in the green industry: landscape design, design/build, landscape contracting or nursery production
- Of current students in our program (about 125 total) 14% seek green industry careers.

Wisconsin firms are at a disadvantage because we are one of the very few remaining states without a Landscape Architecture Practice Act. Passage of the act would allow our Wisconsin firms to compete with those firms from the states with practice acts in place. This would help our graduates find home-grown jobs here in Wisconsin. I have attached a list of recent senior thesis projects so that you may find the ones in your home districts and get a sense of the loss of these bright students.

Finally, speaking from my experience practicing landscape architecture and teaching in accredited profession programs in three other states with practice acts, I know everybody wins: landscape contractors, landscape designers, nurseries and growers, all of us in the green industry. But most of all the Wisconsin public wins; the practice act ultimately provides for their health, safety and welfare.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Senior Capstone Projects 2005 - 2007		
UW-Madison Department of Landscape Architecture		
Student	2005 Capstone Title	Location
Beinert, Roland Alan	Richland Center: Combining the Benefits of New Urbanism and Radburn Style Garden Cities Using Woonerven	Richland Center, WI
Bemis, Megan Leigh	People and Place: Linking Culture with Sustainable Practices Through the Development of Public Space	Stoughton, WI
Bernier, Erik D.	Conservation in Design Applied to Recreation and Subdivision Design	Fon du Lac, WI
Dorschied, Justin Kyle	A New Beginning for Trails End: How a Cultural Landscape can Influence the Design of a Youth Camp	Rusk County, WI
Fobes, Nicholas Parbst	History in Progress: The Downtown Redevelopment of the City of Milton	Milton, WI
Ford, Parisa Anne	The Yahara River Parkway: A Reflection of Our Ideals	Madison, WI
Fruechtl, James Lee	Experiencing the Heritage: Placed Based Tourism in a Rural Wisconsin Village	Redgranite, WI
Goergen, Michael John	Investigating the Effects of Dam Removal on River Systems: Social, Economic, and Environmental Factors Affecting Public Park Design	Rockdale, WI
Haas, Lucas James	Revitalization of an Unused Dump Site and the Development of Surrounding Areas	Poynette, WI
Jacobsen, John Eric	Shorewood Hills: Past to Future	Shorewood Hills, WI
Kiefer, Elona Rose	Providing and Protecting Green Space in a Growing Community	Sauk Prairie, WI
Kludt, Katherine Frances	Healthy Communities: A New Approach to Adams County	Adams County, WI
Lee, Robin Evelyn	The Village of Cross Plains Designs for a Greener Tomorrow	Cross Plains, WI
Lerner, Sarah Coreen	Remediating the Post-Industrial Landscape: Stormwater Management as a Toll for Social and Environmental Justice in South Madison, Wisconsin	Madison, WI
Pavin, Michael Joseph	Reclaiming the River: A Waterfront Development Project in Algoma, WI	Algoma, WI
Selin, Katie Jayne	Lac Courte Oreilles, Wisconsin: Celebrating Culture Through Sustainable Development	Lac Courte Oreilles, WI
Theis, Laura Lynn	Lake Country Land School	
Thuli, Jessica Anne	Embracing Racine's Post Industrial History: Exploring Green Connections to the Root River	Racine, WI
Yahr, Ben James	Environmental Education through Ecological Design: Recommendations for a County Park System	Portage County, WI

2006		
Student	2006 Capstone Title	Location
Baumann, Holly Anne	Implementing Eco-Historical Tourism in Fish Creek, Wisconsin	Fish Creek, WI
Dupree, Jacqueline Nicole	Grand Trunk: Urban Industrial Redevelopment in	Milwaukee, WI
Flock, Carolyn Elizabeth	Revealing the Road to Freedom through Imagination	Racine, WI
Frohlichova, Lucie	Improving Social & Sustainable Patterns in the Sohi Main Street District	Milwaukee, WI
Hostvet, Seth Michael	Enriching a Wisconsin Community through Green Infrastructure	Waupun, WI
Johnson, Eva Marie	Revitalizing Milwaukee's Waterfront: Creating a Recreational Corridor	Milwaukee, WI
Langham, Joshua Scott	Parmenter Street Corridor Redevelopment	Middleton, WI
Lewis, Erin Faye	How Environmental Education and Lifeplace Theory Inform the Design of a Leed Certified Nature Center and Zoo at Myrick Park in La Crosse, Wisconsin	La Crosse, WI
Mikul, Sheradyn Thomas	Wexford Ridge: A Place for All of Us	Madison, WI
Miller, Anastasia Rose	TFC Ranch: Setting a Sustainable Standard	Ogle County, IL
Naparalla, Emily Rose	An Innovative Green Infrastructure Plan for the City of Princeton's Riverwalk on the Fox River, Princeton, WI	Princeton, WI
Rowinski, Laura A.	University of Wisconsin Washington County Campus Revitalization	West Bend, WI
Schlapbach, Errin Rae	Mole Lake, Wisconsin: A Community, a Culture, a Cabin, a Future	Mole Lake, WI
Seidl, Eric P.	20th Street Corridor Redevelopment Plan	Milwaukee, WI
Statz, Jill Marie	Riverwest: An Urban Neighborhood Revitalization Project	Milwaukee, WI
Stearns, Gloria Jean	Tosa Tetris: Inserting New Ideas into Old Urbanism Applications and Implications of Sustainability in an Urban Environment	Wauwatosa, WI
Victoria, Kassie Ann	Benton Wisconsin	Benton, WI
Villand, Marian Grace	How Green Infrastructure, Smart Growth, and Storm Water Management BMPs Influence a Traditional Neighborhood in the Historic Downtown	Cottage Grove, WI

2007		
<u>Student</u>	<u>2007 Capstone Title</u>	<u>Location</u>
Bachmeier, Ryan	McGaw Park	Fitchburg, Wisconsin
Bernau, Shane	Sociology and Environmental Aesthetics Applied to Urban Openspace Design and Downtown Development in the Village of Jackson, Wisconsin	Jackson, Wisconsin
Bohan, Brenda	"Holt Urban Acres" A Revitalization and Redevelopment Project in Riverwest and Harambee Neighborhood	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Claypatch, Anita	Active Living: Vision for a Sustainable Greenway & Neighborhood Development	Poplar Grove, Illinois
Gevelinger, Leigh	A Sustainable Approach for Downtown Revitalization	Lodi, Wisconsin
Heading, Paul	Nordic Mountain Destination Resort Development	Mount Morris, Wisconsin
Klostermann, Abbie	The Next Step: Vision for a Green Community	Village of Marshall, Wisconsin
Koffarnus, Tracy	Parameter North: a transit-oriented development for the City of Middleton	Middleton, Wisconsin
Langfeldt, Charles	The City of Berlin: Waterfront Restoration and Redevelopment Along the Fox River	Berlin, Wisconsin
Lipska, Melissa	An Urban Open Space Plan Created through Community Development: Mast Plan Development off Regner Park	West Bend, Wisconsin
Mattes, Garrett	Graber Pond Corridor Commercial Development Analysis & Design	Middleton, Wisconsin
Meszaros, Angela	Badger Prairie County Park: Environmental Education through community involvement	Badger Prairie Park, Wisconsin
Peterson, Amy	Park Site 'F': A Neighborhood Park Development for Prairie Meadow Subdivision	West Bend, Wisconsin
Rogers, Michael	Using Ecological and Environmental Restoration and Protection as a Source for Education in a Nature Center	The Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, Milwaukee River Site, Wisconsin
Snyder, Suzanne	City of Waupun: a study in downtown revitalization	Waupun, Wisconsin
Uitenbroek, Isaac	The Village of Wyocena, WI	Wyocena, Wisconsin
Vincent, Jared	Master Plan for a More Sustainable Future with Applied Theories in Human Ecology and Environmental Education in Small Town Communities	Village of Brooklyn, Wisconsin
Zilske, Amanda	Carroll College: A Master Plan for Wisconsin's Pioneer College	Waukesha, Wisconsin

2008		
Student	2008 Capstone Title	Location
Burris, Susan	Elvehjem Elementary: A Boundless Playground	Madison, WI
Carlson, Philip	New Richmond, WI	New Richmond, WI
DeGrush, Daniel	Country Side: A Conservation Community for the City of Middleton	Middleton, WI
Folgert, Rebecca	The Glacial Heritage Area: Creating a Sense of Place for Recreational Biking and Paddling	Glacial Heritage Area
Johanek, Matthew	Stockton Waterfront: A Catalyst for City Development	Stockton, WI
Lechter, Eli	Revitalizing an Urban Community, Lisbon Avenue Community: Community Participation and Urban Renewal applied to open space design emphasizing ecologically sustainable growth.	Milwaukee, WI
Lueck, Landon	River Falls: Integration of Multi-Modal Transportation And Re-Engaging the City with the Waterfront	River Falls, WI
Makris, Michael	Rangers Place: Creating an Urban Entertainment District in Arlington, Texas	Arlington, Texas
McDonald, Sarah	Fitchburg Center Eco-Community: A Vision for a Sustainable Community	Fitchburg, WI
Morgan, Erin	Once Upon a Time Child Care: A Playground of Sustainability	Verona, WI
Mueller, Kerri	How indigenous ecocultural tourism effects the design of a cultural exchange venue	Lac Courte Oreilles, WI
Nachreiner, Carsen	Rural Downtown Revival	Sauk City, WI
Porto, Tristan	Suspension Bridge Park: A Transit Oriented Development ofr Madison, WI	Madison, WI
Rettler, Ross	Sandhill Shores: Residential Community and Education Center Conservation Plan	Monroe, WI
Schuchardt, Eric	Mediscape: Promoting the Study of Zen through Restorative Reconnections	Door County, WI
Swartz, Nikolaus	Green Tech Village: The Placemaking of an Urban Village through Transit-Oriented Development & Regional Design	Fitchburg, WI
Vieth, Zachary	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive: Sustainable Design Solutions Rooted in a Post-Industrial Community	Milwaukee, WI
Vinyeta, Kisten	An Enduring Culture, a Delicate Footprint: Promoting a Culturally and Environmentally Sustainable Community for the St. Croix Ojibwa via Principals of Conservation Development and Culturally Sensitive Environmental Ethics	Hertal, WI
Wanasek, Elizabeth	Downtown Revitalization and Waterfront Development in Albany, WI	Albany, WI
Wanta, Jonathon	Red Cliff Environmental Education Center	Red Cliff, WI
Wooddell, Kerry	The College of Menominee Nation: Creating a Sustainable, Place-based Campus Design	College of Menominee Nation, WI



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Tuesday, April 07, 2009

The Honorable Representative Christine Sinicki
Chair, Wisconsin Assembly Labor Committee
State Capitol, Madison WI 53708

Re: Assembly Bill 142 - Oppose

Dear Representative Sinicki:

On behalf of the Wisconsin members of the Irrigation Association, I am writing to inform you of our opposition to Assembly Bill 142 in its current form. The current text defines the practice of landscape architecture and includes as part of such practice, the production of an irrigation design. This will effectively remove the ability for many of our members to legally perform functions they have traditionally provided as part of their business mix, functions which they are highly qualified to perform.

Irrigation design requires a unique skill set which landscape architects may or may not possess. Professional certification programs exist that recognize individual competence in the field of irrigation. The Irrigation Association (www.irrigation.org) offers specific irrigation design certifications that are recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program. (www.epa.gov/watersense) The current bill text discriminates against several of our Wisconsin members that have demonstrated competence and experience in the field of irrigation design who are not landscape architects and would not qualify for any of the listed exemptions in the bill. To exclude such dedicated professionals from the irrigation design process in favor of delegating the responsibility of irrigation design solely to landscape architects is not in the best interests of Wisconsin's citizens or its water resources.

If it is the desire of the committee to advance this bill, the text should be amended to satisfy the above concerns by either altering the definition of the practice of landscape architecture to remove reference to the production of an irrigation design or by inserting a specific exemption for irrigation designers and contractors to perform such services without creating legal ramifications.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew K. Smith, External Affairs Director
231-582-6023 andy@irrigation.org

Cc: Representative Andy Jorgensen, Representative Barbara Toles, Representative Stephen Nass, Representative Terry Van Akkeren, Representative Joe Parisi, Representative Mark Honadel, Representative Daniel Knodl
Carl Dowse, The Bruce Company; Mike Todd, Milwaukee Lawn Sprinkler Corp.



Milwaukee Lawn Sprinkler Corp.

April 8, 2009

From: Michael Todd, Owner of Milwaukee Lawn Sprinkler Corp., Menomonee Falls, WI

To: Legislative Committee Hearing for LA Practice Act – AB-142 - oppose

Committee Members,

I am an irrigation contractor operating Milwaukee Lawn Sprinkler Corp. since 1974. I am a licensed Master Plumber – Restricted in the state of WI. I am a Certified Irrigation Designer, Certified Irrigation Contractor, certified by the IA (Irrigation Association). I am also an EPA WaterSense Partner. I have taught irrigation design and construction to students of Milwaukee Area Technical College and Waukesha County Technical College. I have designed hundreds of irrigation systems professionally – many for cities and municipalities.

I urge you to reconsider approving Proposal AB-142 (the LA Practice Act.) Assembly Bill 142 should not include any reference to the design of irrigation systems by Landscape Architects because they are not formally taught the discipline nor do they practice the discipline in the state of Wisconsin. There are no irrigation design classes to my knowledge at UW's school of Landscape Architecture. There are, to my knowledge, no active landscape architects doing irrigation design. There are no registered LA's who are CID (Certified Irrigation Designer) by the IA (Irrigation Association).

It is unwise to give restricted authority to a group of professionals who are not trained, have no credentials, or for that matter, even bother to practice the discipline of Irrigation Design.

Landscape Irrigation Design is practiced by professionals who are specialists in this particular area of the landscape industry.

It is in the interest of all Wisconsin residents to have professionals trained in irrigation design to protect our most valuable resource – water.

It is My recommendation

1. SECTION 2, Paragraph 443.01, Line 18 should eliminate the work "irrigation".
2. In addition, SECTION 3-443.01 (H); detailing exceptions should be amended as follows: "making plans or drawing for the selection, placement or use of plants, site features [and irrigation designs]". Add ["and irrigation Designs"].

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Michael P. Todd, CID
President

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